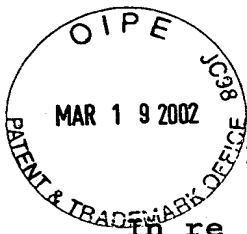


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XA-9591
PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Hiroshi SEKINE

Appln. No.: 10/002,012

Group Art Unit: 3629

Filed: December 5, 2001

For: CROSS JOINT

* * *

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, and without any assertion as to materiality or prior art effect, the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are hereby cited.

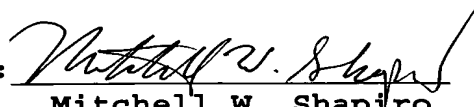
Document AG on the attached list is cited in the specification, on pages 1-3, and its relevance is indicated therein.

Applicants Japanese representative has also provided the attached comments regarding the relevance of the listed documents.

Respectfully submitted,

MWS:sjk

Miles & Stockbridge P.C.
1751 Pinnacle Drive
Suite 500
McLean, Virginia 22102-3833
(703) 903-9000

By: 
Mitchell W. Shapiro
Reg. No. 31,568

March 19, 2002

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Comments Provided by Japanese Representative:

1. Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. 2000-170786

(Document AG):

A spider is clearance-fitted in a bearing.

2. Japanese Utility Model Application Laid-Open No. 1-

65929 (Document AH):

Plural rows of rollers are used on stepped portions of a spider. The spider is clearance-fitted in a bearing.

3. Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. 2000-170755

(Document AI):

Bearing cup is formed with three or more partly circular walls which are elastically deformed to eliminate plays.

4. Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. 2001-193753

(Document AJ):

An elastic member is disposed between the bottom of a bearing cup and an end of a spider. The elastic member is elastically deformed in the thrust and radial directions.